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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/977,687	10/16/2001	Craig R. White	10011785-1	3774
7590 03/21/2008 HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY Intellectual Property Administration P.O. Box 272400 Fort Collins, CO 80527-2400			EXAMINER ALI, MOHAMED HATEM	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3692	
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**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

### Office Action Summary

**Application No.**

09/977,687

**Applicant(s)**

WHITE, CRAIG R.

**Examiner**

MD HATEM H. ALI

**Art Unit**

3692

**Period for Reply** -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 31 January 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 and 21-26 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 and 21-26 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/C2)
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_

## DETAILED ACTION

### ***Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114***

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on **1/31/08** has been entered.

2. The following is an **Action** in response to the communication received on **1/31/08**

### ***Acknowledgement***

3. In the response the **claims** have not been amended. As such claims **1-8** and **21-26** are pending.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5. **Claims 1-4 & 7** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by **Yamaguchi** (6,385,675).

**As per claims 1 and 4, Yamaguchi** discloses an electronic transaction recording system for accumulating data from a printer (a digital copying machine **100**), having an owner and a user the system comprising:

a billing manger (see **col.2** ; via account processor**101H** and accounting program and operations for costing and inherently billing system), which manages billing policies for the printer device to determine a cost of each operation performed on the printer device (**col.2**, lines 60-62; via accounting program inherently processing cost of each operation);

a billing system (**101 I**; via controller controlling the accounting operations), which accumulates information on usage of the printer device by the user, generates an accounting of usage based on the accumulated information and associates the accounting of usage with a predetermined unit of usage (**col.2**, lines 62-67 and **col.3**, lines 1-3); and

at least one database, which stores account information of the user of the printer device in terms of the predetermined unit of usage (**col.** lines 40-51; via image processor **101** stores PDL data into user's assigned memory with the host computer **102**);

wherein the billing system periodically updates the account information of the user of the printer device and issues an accounting of costs to the user (**col. 2**, lens 27-35 and **col.3**, lines 4-8), and

wherein the billing system credits the owner of the printer device an amount corresponding to the predetermined unit of usage of the printer device by the user (**col.3**, lines 9-28; via accounting operation based on parameters as name of the user [owner's name could get discounted or gained or credited] by changing parameters with specific program and by carrying out special operation for that purpose inherent and implied to the programming system with predetermined unit of usage like other users [**col. 2**, lines 62-67 and **col.3**, lines 1-3])).

**As per claims 2, Yamaguchi** discloses that the predetermined unit of usage is a token (**col.1**, lines 35-55, via page unit as token and plurality of operational mode as event and based on command from the host computer make the total charge for the printing to the host computer through a circuit **100F** for managing and logging each job as an account).

**As per claim 3, Yamaguchi** discloses that the billing system further accumulates information on usage of the printer device by the owner of the printer device, and only bills the owner of the printer device for net usage of the printer device (**col.5**, lines 10-17; via the host computer **102** uses the program software to carry out the specified functions [operator can change the functions if desired] for billing the owner as estimated for the net usage).

**As per claim 7, Yamaguchi** discloses that a configuration unit coupled to the billing policy database for updating and configuring billing policies for new users of the printer device (**col.2**, lines 65-67; via the host computers-**102** may be new users to be configured by the controller **101 I**).

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. **Claims 5-6, 8 and 21-26** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Yamaguchi** (6,385,675), as applied to claim 1 above, in view of **Okuda** et al (7,034,952)

**As per claims 5 and 6, Yamaguchi** discloses all the elements of the claimed invention, but fails to explicitly disclose a mobile access unit coupled to the billing manager, wherein the mobile access unit indicates content to be printed at the printer device and selected from the group consisting of a personal digital assistant, a wireless telephone and a mobile computer.

However, **Okuda** being in the same field of invention discloses a mobile access unit coupled to the billing manager, wherein the mobile access unit indicates content to be printed at the printer device and selected from the group consisting of a personal digital assistant, a wireless telephone and a mobile computer (see **Figs.2-3** and **col.3**, lines 4-9 and 27-51; via mobile telephone or portable PC are used as the user terminal **102** to a system of the print service shop **101**).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to modify the disclosure and features mentioned by **Yamaguchi** and to include the teachings of **Okuda** to facilitate in order to handle a print request from the mobile user terminals connected through Internet having web browser facilities.

**As per claims 8 and 26, Yamaguchi** teaches all elements of the claimed invention, but fails to explicitly disclose the billing system is selected from a back office billing system and Internet Settlement Model.

However, **Okuda** being in the same field of invention discloses the billing system is selected from a back office billing system and Internet Settlement Model (**col.4**, lines 35-47; via the fee computer **408**, the settlement maker **409** and settlement information unit **457** with print service server **100**, inherently charges printing fees and does the back office billing system online [**Internet**]).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to modify the disclosure and features as mentioned by **Yamaguchi** to include the teachings of **Okuda** to facilitate a fee collector (**508**) to collect charge amount by means of prepaid card or the like

**As per claims 21, 22, 23 and 24, Yamaguchi** discloses the system comprising a plurality of printer devices connected over a network (**col. 2**, lines 15-30),

the billing manager (see **Fig.2, col.2**; line 63 via controller **101 I** for controlling the account operation) is coupled to each printer device for determining the amount of

printer usage and associating a predetermined amount of token values with the amount of printer usage (**col.2**, lines 62-67 and **col. 3**, lines 1-3); and

a billing policies database, which includes billing policies for the printer devices such that the each printer device uses at least one billing policy to determine a cost of each operation, performed on the printer (**col.2**, lines 27-35 and **col.3**, lines 4-8 and inherent programmed function for cost of each operation).

**Yamaguchi** discloses all the elements of the invention, but fails to explicitly disclose that a mobile access unit containing content which is to be printed and each printer device can receive the content from the mobile access unit and print the content in responses to an authorization process.

However, **Okuda** being in the same field of invention discloses that a mobile access unit containing content which is to be printed and each printer device can receive the content from the mobile access unit and print the content in responses to an authorization process (**col.3; Fig.2**; via mobile telephone as user terminal **102** has a function of a data terminal, internet, gateway server and user verification [implied relation to acceptance] and the like ; **col.4**; lines 11-16; via the job collector 403 accept job data mainly print request from a user)

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to modify the disclosure and features mentioned by **Yamaguchi** to include the teachings of **Okuda** to facilitate the acceptance of verified print request from online users for printing services.



**As per claim 25, Yamaguchi** discloses that a user configuration unit coupled to the billing policies database for updating and configuring billing policies for new users of the printer devices (**col.2**, lines 65-67; via the controller **101** I control the copying machine **100** to carry out a function specified by host computers **102** inherently billing policies related to new users).

### ***Response to Arguments***

8. Applicant's arguments with respect to **claims 1-8** and **21-26** have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

### ***Conclusion***

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mohamed H. Ali whose telephone number is 571-270-3021. The examiner can normally be reached on 8.00 to 6.00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kambiz Abdi can be reached on 571-272-6702. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 3692

Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions regarding the status of an application, you may obtain information from the Patent and Trademark Office. For more information on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

MA

Mohamed H Ali  
Examiner  
Art Unit 3693

/Harish T Dass/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3692